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Remarks

Claims 1-8 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Narusawa in view of Gatto.

Narusawa discloses a multifunction printer including a USB hub. The printer is a photograph printer. The multifunction printer may further include an image scanner for scanning photographs.

Gatto discloses a scanning computer terminal scanning and storing paper documents to support the concept of a paperless office. The scanning computer terminal may include a receipt printer for printing a receipt as proof that the scan and store transaction has been successful and for later retrieval of information associated with the scanned document. The scanning computer terminal may also include a barcode reader for reading a barcode on the receipt for accessing the information associated with the scanned document.

The Office has suggested the Narasuwa discloses a barcode reader. Applicants respectfully disagree. A barcode reader may include an image scanner, but an image scanner does not necessarily include a barcode scanner. An image scanner is only one possible component of a barcode reader. There is no

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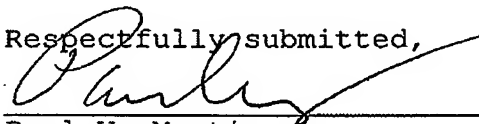
teaching in Narasuwa directed to using the image scanner to read barcodes.

The Office acknowledges that Narasuwa fails to disclose that the system is used at a checkout station during a sale of products completed by the transaction computer and cites Gatto to supply this missing element. However, a close reading of Gatto reveals that Gatto fails to disclose a computer at a checkout station for completing the sale of products.

Further, while Gatto discloses a receipt printer, the receipt printer is not used by Gatto to generate a receipt following a transaction involving the sale of products.

Applicants respectfully request that the pending claims be allowed.

Respectfully submitted,



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